

# The Mail Ego

By Terrence O'Flaherty

"What has become of that old movie hero The Boy Next Door who always defeated the villain and warmed the heart?"

He was run over by Marlon Brando on a motorcycle many years ago and hasn't worked since.

"Today we are faced with great disrespect for law and order, so isn't it about time the TV shows stop calling policemen 'cops'?"

On "Dragnet," a series which has always pictured the policeman as honest, human and worthy of respect, Jack Webb takes pride in saying, "I'm Joe Friday. I'm a cop." The International Association of Police Chiefs prefers the word "policeman." Confidentially, when a cop is about to give me a ticket, I always call him "officer."

"How soon can we expect a movie titled 'Chuck and Lynda Bird'? Or maybe a TV series?"

Not as long as LBJ is in office. A White House editor bans the commercial use of any member of the First Family—including the President's dog "Yuki." Political use is okay, I presume.

"My youngster has grown up watching television but the language he hears spoken on TV is dreadful. Must he grow up to speak either New Yorkese or hillbilly West-ern?"

If he don't Ma'am, the other kids ain't gonna understand what he's talkin' about. Of course, you could remove his tongue.

"When are Liz Taylor and Richard Burton going to take a long vacation?"

## Gifts for Indians Collected

Students at Sam Levy Elementary School observed the first Christmas at the new school by collecting gifts for the Navajo Indians.

Instead of exchanging presents at class parties, youngsters brought clothes, toys and candy to be distributed by the Torrance YMCA during the holidays.

A committee comprised of sixth grade students packaged boxes of contributions. PTA members helped coordinate the project.

The movie industry can't afford it. The eleven films they've appeared in, together and singly, in these five years since their "Cleopatra" floated down the Nile in '62 are expected to gross \$200 million. Besides, what would Life and Look do for covers if Miss Taylor pauses for rest?

"Television's greatest curse is the used car salesman whose toothy smiles and bedside manner jolt me back to reality in the late movies. But when will they learn that 20 sales pitches are too much for one hour of TV time?"

The passing of time means very little to the boys along Auto Row. Except, of course, when they count the years on the car you're trading in.

"What do they mean when they advertise a TV set with a 17-inch screen? I had one sent out and it was much smaller."

Those sly TV set manufacturers measure their screens diagonally from top right corner to bottom left corner. And the measurement is taken on the curved surface of the tube itself and not on the flat glass which covers it.

"Why isn't Tennessee Ernie Ford doing a regular television series?"

He could if he wanted to. He was one of the few TV stars who stepped off the weekly treadmill with a top ten rating and a willing sponsor. He and Betty Ford preferred to raise their two sons outside Hollywood in a suburb of San Francisco. His calendar is full of personal appearances and his TV Special for CBS on Dec. 3 attracted the largest viewing audience of the current season. Maybe absence does indeed make the heart grow fonder.

"Is Jayne Meadows Chinese?"

No—not even if her home town is Wu Chang, China, where she and her sister Audrey were born of missionary parents. When the Civil War of the Thirties tore the country apart, they escaped to the States, where Audrey fell in the hands of Jackie Gleason and Jayne was abducted by Steve Allen. Gosh, they certainly don't LOOK Chinese.



**PRINCESS AND HER COURT . . .** Susan Phipps of Westchester and her court, first runner-up Mary Rossick of Lomita, and second runner-up, Kathleen Monson of Torrance, will represent the Heart Association's Southwestern Branch in the Queen of Hearts contest. The three girls competed against 14 other area teenagers at a Hawthorne Memorial Center program. As princess, Susan will earn points for speaking on Heart subjects at civic organizations and if her amassed point total is higher than those of princesses from other areas throughout the county, she will be crowned Queen of Hearts at a coronation ball early next year.

## Queen of Hearts Contest Taps Three Area Girls

A Lomita teenager, Mary Rossick, and a Torrance girl, Kathleen Monson, have been named runners-up in the princess contest of the Heart Association's Southwest area. Chosen as princess was Susan Phipps of Westchester, who will represent the Southwest area in the county-wide Queen of Hearts contest.

Susan was named Heart Princess in a program at Hawthorne Memorial Center, while Mary was selected as first runner-up and Kathleen as second runner-up. In addition to being rated on their speeches, "Why I Want to Help the Heart Association," the three were judged on appearance, enthusiasm, and their interest and knowledge in the work of the Heart Association.

**JUDGING THE** three girls and 12 other contestants for the princess title were Miss Eileen O'Brien, Redondo Beach, director of social services, Harbor General Hospital; Jerry Hays, marketing manager of Del Amo Financial Center for Great Lakes Realty Corp.; and Roy Rosenberg, public information officer, Inglewood Unified School District. Susan is president of the

Westchester Teen Council, Los Angeles City Teen Council, is a Teen Queen of Westchester. As a Girl Scout, Susan worked in hospitals, homes for the aged, and in many community projects.

**MISS ROSSICK**, a 17-year-old Narbonne High School student, has been active in school as a Girls' League rep-

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## County Taxpayers Save \$789,000 by Mail Plan

County taxpayers have been saved more than \$789,000 during the first six months of a program to confirm Old Age Security eligibility by mail.

That figure was reported this week by Ellis P. Murphy, director of the Department of Public Social Services, in a report to Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, who initiated the program.

Murphy said Hahn's suggestion "has greatly simplified a previously complicated process, has provided more immediate and direct services to those persons in need, and has resulted in considerable financial savings."

**HAHN PROPOSED** confirming Old Age Security by mail in 1964 when he learned the law required college-trained social workers to personally visit elderly persons receiving assistance at least once a year.

He said the visit was selected Drill Team member. In community activities she has participated in Mariner Scouts and Hi-Deb Council.

Kathleen Monson is a 16-year-old Torrance High School student who will graduate next year. She is a Candy Stripper at Harbor General Hospital and belongs to the Medical Careers Club in school.

dom necessary because the age-income status of a person receiving Old Age Security rarely changes, since the chief requirement is financial need after reaching age 65.

Hahn proposed that through a simple affidavit mailed to the recipient he could each year reaffirm his eligibility.

**SOCIAL WORKERS** agreed their time could be much better spent counseling and helping younger families to get jobs and get off welfare roles.

To establish the mail plan, both Federal and State approval was necessary and Supervisor Hahn pressed for more than a year to gain that approval.

A pilot project was established Oct. 1, 1965, in Los Angeles County and its success paved the way to expansion of the program countywide.

It is now being applied to counties throughout the nation.

**THE PROGRAM** has resulted in streamlining of the Social Services Department by removing much of the paperwork from the social worker. A new position of welfare assistant, who need not be a college graduate, was created to handle the Old Age Security confirmation paperwork. When a recipient requests or appears to need the assistance of a social worker, one is immediately assigned.

From May 1, 1967, through Oct. 31, 1967, 12,513 persons applied for help through the Old Age Security program. In the same period of time, 9,396 applicants were approved for financial assistance by this simplified declaration process.

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